

# Montgomery Cares Advisory Board

## January 25, 2017 Meeting Notes

**MCAB Members Present:** Betsy Ballard, Julia Doherty, Stephen Gammarino, Sybil Greenhut, Lynda Honberg, Peter Lowet, Wilbur Malloy, Marie Mann, Mayur Mody, Agnes Saenz, Langston Smith, Wayne Swann

**MCAB Members Absent:** Jane Hooker, T.J. Senker

**DHHS Staff:** Magda Brown, Tara Clemons, Paola Fernan-Zegarra, Mark Hodge, Doreen Kelly, LaSonya Kelly, Robert Morrow

**County Council Staff:** Linda McMillan

**Primary Care Coalition:** Rose Botchway, Marisol Ortiz, Barbara Raskin, Hillery Tsumba

**Guest:** Leon Mait with Montgomery Housing Partnership, Kevin Mell for T.J. Senker, Crystal Townsend

The Chair, Steve Gammarino, called the meeting to order at 6:17pm

Item		Action Follow-up	Person Assigned	Due Date
1.	<b>Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2016 meeting</b>  <i>Moved by Wayne Swann, Seconded by Wilbur Malloy</i> <i>The motion was approved unanimously.</i>	None	None	None
2.	<b>Chair Report</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Steve Gammarino</b></span>  Steve asked Board Members and guests for a moment of silence in remembrance of Dr. Tillman. This was followed by members sharing memories and highlighting Dr. Tillman's service to DHHS and the Montgomery County community. Steve highlighted the agenda and recognized Leon Mait with Montgomery Housing Partnership and Kevin Mell as visitors.  Steve mentioned that the HHS Director hosted her quarterly meeting the Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Boards, Commissions and Committees on January 24 <sup>th</sup> . The Director mentioned that mentioned that Department put forth a 2% budget reduction as requested by the County Executive. Consequently, there will be no new funding added to the FY18 budget.  The Joint Advocates (HCLC, MCAB, HCLC) met January 19 <sup>th</sup> . The Co-Chairs of the Advocacy work group will report on the results of the meeting later in the agenda.	None	None	None

3.	<p><b>Senior Administrator's Report</b> See Report and handout</p> <p>Doreen reviewed the December data for the Health Care for the Uninsured programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Montgomery Cares utilization continues to hold steady compared with last year with a slight increase in the number of patients.</li> <li>▪ Care for Kids enrollment continues to increase and the program had a record high number of new enrollees in December. The total number of enrolled participants to date is 21% higher than this time last year. PCC is currently working on its estimate of the expected shortfall the CFK budget.</li> <li>▪ The Maternity Partnership Program had a higher monthly enrollment in December, compared with last year. However, the program's year to date enrollment average is 10% lower than last year.</li> <li>▪ The Dental program has increased the number served by 21% compared with the first six months of last year. There is a significantly long wait list for appointments for adults and seniors. The percentage of Maternity Partnership Program clients accessing oral health services significantly increased during FY16 to 67% of the MPP clients.</li> <li>▪ Health Care for the Homeless programs: currently the program is in hypothermia season, which means shelters are housing more individuals. A new shelter building opened at Progress Place in December to replace an older facility, and Mobile Med moved into two exam rooms there. The former Wilkins Avenue Women's assessment Center moved to a new location, in an improved facility at 2 Taft Ct. It is now called the Interfaith Works Women's Center</li> </ul> <p>The Behavioral Health report for the Montgomery County Council is being finalized following review and additional input from the HHS Director. The report will reaffirm the department's support for the collaborative and integrated model of care, and it also includes the MCAB's Guiding Principles for the report.</p> <p>Doreen mentioned that the Montgomery Cares 2.0 report, which will have a proposed timeline for implementation, is being finalized. It will be submitted to the HHS Director in mid-February.</p> <p>Doreen shared that on January 12, the County Executive and Councilmember Leventhal announced an expanded partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to make discounted dental services, vision, hearing and diabetes supplies available to County residents who register with NACo's Live Healthy Program. This piggy backs on the successful NACo prescription discount card that has been available since 2004. Cards and information about the program were sent to the Montgomery Cares clinics. Enrollment in the program will cause \$6.95 a month.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lynda Honberg questioned how much of a discount (dental) is provided with the NACo prescription card. Doreen replied that she did not know the rates but the County did negotiate this with NACo. The website listed on the back of the card should provide more information.</li> <li>▪ Sybil question where the card is advertised and promoted? Doreen answered that the County held a news conference, the information is on the County website and the card is available in public locations such as the libraries. Additionally, each Montgomery Cares clinic we're sent a box of cards for distribution.</li> </ul>	Doreen Kelly	None	None
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lynda questioned would it make sense for the County to subsidize the \$6.95 a month for Montgomery Cares clients? Agnes noted that clients often have co-pays of \$20 now for services so patients could like pay a monthly enrollment of \$6.95.</li> </ul>				
4.	<p><b>FY18 Advocacy Priorities</b> <b>See handouts</b></p> <p>Steve explained to the Board that there were 2 separate handouts for the FY18 budget priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MCAB FY18 Budget Priorities document shows a net ask of \$960,700 for all programs. This was the amount that had been discussed and approved by the MCAB at the December 2016 meeting.</li> <li>The Joint Advocates document is a list compilation based on discussion during their meeting held last Thursday with a total request amount of \$1,382,700. This amount includes an additional ask of \$186,000 for Care for Kids (\$176,000 to provide integrated behavioral health services for vulnerable children and \$10,000 to continue to provide customer service and timely enrollment due to the unprecedented program growth.), \$136,000 for Montgomery Cares to increase the encounter rate by \$2.00 and a \$250,000 to provide essential adult immunizations.</li> </ul> <p>Lynda Honberg shared that a few of the MCAB advocacy workgroup members attended the Joint Advocates meeting. The discussion went well and additional funding was requested in the program areas Steve mentioned. PCC recently learned that they were awarded a HRSA grant to provide Behavioral Health (BH) for CFK enrollees. Lynda asked Hillery to expound upon the grant details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hillery described that PCC received notification from HRSA that they received the grant the day before MCAB’s meeting. With this recent information, PCC is in the process of working out the details. The grant funding is supposed to be \$50,000 each year. As a federal grant, the award is pending the availability of funding each year. PCC was recently a grant by the Healthcare Initiative Foundation (HIF) to provide Behavioral Health services for CFK clients. The HIF funding is for a year duration and the HRSA will provided repeated funding over the next few years. PCC is working on revising the advocacy request as a result of the grant funding.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sybil questioned had anything been decided about who would be providing the BH services? Marisol stated the community clinics involved would be utilizing licensed clinicians currently at the sites to see children.</li> <li>Marie questioned what is the justification for the BH needs? Is it access needed based on age distribution? Hillery answered that there currently isn’t any data support the need because the programs doesn’t exist. Linda mentioned that the children have access to Linkages to Learning. It’s the adolescent children, clients 10 and older that lack access.</li> <li>Steve stated to members, based on what they have heard so far would they support PCC revising the BH request for CFK? Members agreed to address the BH request at a future meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Lynda described that the initial ask for Immunizations under Montgomery Cares was \$150,000 to cover TDAP and Pneumococcal vaccines. The two immunizations were identified as a priority among the six immunizations</p>	Lynda Honberg/Mayur Mody	Review CFK BH Funding Needs	Advocacy Committee	2/22/17

	<p>recommended by the Montgomery Cares medical directors. Recently, PCC received a grant for \$250,000 (over 2 years) to cover immunizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The total cost of the six immunizations is \$500,000. The initial \$250,000 will be covered by the grant. It was suggested that MCAB increase its request for immunizations to \$250,000 to cover the remaining vaccines. Members decided to support the \$250,000 ask to provide all vaccines.</li></ul> <p>Peter, as part of HCLC, described the need for a per encounter rate increase. The cost of providing services to patients is steady on the rise. The requirements for providers to now have cyber security coverage is another new cost that must be factored in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Lynda stated that it wasn't a significant dollar amount request based on the other advocacy items. If we are committed to enhanced sustainability, as stated in 2.0, this request isn't unreasonable. We may need to prioritize the advocacy requests based on feedback from Council members and the County Executive's budget.</li></ul> <p>Steve requested approval on the following advocacy items;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Adding BH services for Care for Kids – up to \$176,000</li><li>▪ Adding Operating funds to Care for Kids - \$10,000</li><li>▪ Increasing Immunization request from \$150,000 or \$250,000</li><li>▪ Increase the encounter rate by \$2 (\$71 to \$73) - \$136,000</li></ul> <p><b><i>Moved by Julia Doherty, Seconded by Wilbur Malloy</i></b> <i>The motion was approved unanimously.</i></p>				
5.	<p><b>Next Steps and Formal Adjournment</b></p> <p>February's MCAB meeting - will focus on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Advocacy Priorities</li><li>▪ Grant Applications</li><li>▪ Health Care for the Uninsured Program Updates</li></ul>	<p><b>Steve Gammarino</b></p>	<p>Distribute grant applications to MCAB members</p>	<p>Tara Clemons</p>	<p>2/22/17</p>
6.	<p><b>Meeting Adjourned at 8:14pm</b></p> <p><b><i>Motion to adjourn: Agnes Saenz, Seconded by Lynda Honberg</i></b> <i>Unanimously approved</i></p>				

Respectfully submitted,



Tara Clemons  
Montgomery Cares Advisory Board